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Forty-sixth session

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE 80th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Tuesday, 4 February 1992, at 10.30 a.m.

President: Mr. OUDOVENKO (Ukraine)
(Vice-President)

- Avalanches in Turkey
- Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (A/46/868) [114] (continued)
- Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: [8] (continued)

  (a) Request for the inclusion of an additional sub-item submitted by the Secretary-General (A/46/234)

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(b) Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by the Secretary-General (A/46/235 and Add.1)

(c) Note by the Secretary-General requesting reopening of the consideration of agenda item 146 (Financing of the United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia) (A/46/867)

(d) Letter from Samoa requesting reopening of the consideration of agenda item 84 (Special economic and disaster relief assistance) (A/46/865)

In the absence of the President, Mr. Oudovenko (Ukraine), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10.40 a.m.

AVALANCHES IN TURKEY

The PRESIDENT: May I, on behalf of all the members of the Assembly, extend our deepest sympathy to the Government and the people of Turkey for the tragic loss of life which has resulted from the recent avalanches.

Mr. KORUTURK (Turkey): I wish to express to you, Sir, the profound appreciation of the Turkish delegation for your kind words of sympathy in connection with the tragic avalanche disasters in my country and the consequent heavy loss of life.

My delegation will transmit to the Government of Turkey your expression of condolences on this sad occasion. This is a demonstration of solidarity on the part of the General Assembly which will provide comfort to those who are struggling with adversity in difficult winter conditions.

AGENDA ITEM 114 (continued)

SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS FOR THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE EXPENSES OF THE UNITED NATIONS (A/46/868)

The PRESIDENT: I should now like, in keeping with established practice, to invite the attention of the General Assembly to document A/46/868, which contains a letter addressed to the President of the General Assembly by the Secretary-General in which he informs the Assembly that 20 Member States are in arrears in the payment of their financial contributions to the United Nations within the terms of Article 19 of the Charter.

I would like to remind delegations that, under Article 19 of the Charter,

"A member of the United Nations which is in arrears in the payment of its financial contributions to the Organization shall have no vote in

(The President)

the General Assembly if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the preceding two full years".

May I take it that the General Assembly duly takes note of this information?

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 8 (continued)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

(a) REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL SUB-ITEM SUBMITTED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (A/46/234)

(b) REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM SUBMITTED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (A/46/235 and Add.1)

(c) NOTE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL REQUESTING REOPENING OF THE CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEM 146 (FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS ADVANCE MISSION IN CAMBODIA) (A/46/867)

(d) LETTER FROM SAMOA REQUESTING REOPENING OF THE CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEM 84 (SPECIAL ECONOMIC AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE) (A/46/865)

The PRESIDENT: This morning, in connection with our organization of work, we shall address the requests contained in the notes by the Secretary-General circulated in documents A/46/234, A/46/235 and A/46/867, as well as the request contained in the letter dated 27 January 1992 from Samoa (A/46/865).

Unless there is an objection, I shall take it that the General Assembly agrees that, under the circumstances described in the notes by the Secretary-General, the provision of rule 40 of the rules of procedure, which would require a meeting of the General Committee on the question of the inclusion and allocation of a sub-item and an item, should be waived.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We shall first turn to the request contained in document A/46/234.

(The President)

In his note, the Secretary-General informs the General Assembly that he has received notification of the resignation of two members of the International Civil Service Commission, Ms. Claudia Cooley of the United States of America and Mr. Michel Jean Bardoux of France, and that the Assembly will therefore be required at its forty-sixth session to appoint two persons to fill the unexpired portion of the term of office of Ms. Cooley and Mr. Bardoux - that is, until 31 December 1993.

Inasmuch as agenda item 18 of the forty-sixth session, entitled "Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments", does not include a sub-item relating to the appointment to fill these two vacancies, it is proposed that an additional sub-item entitled "Appointment of members of the International Civil Service Commission" be included in the agenda of the forty-sixth session. It is also proposed that, in accordance with established practice, the additional sub-item be allocated to the Fifth Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to include under agenda item 18 the following sub-item: "(k) Appointment of members of the International Civil Service Commission", and to allocate that sub-item to the Fifth Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Next we turn to the request contained in the note by the Secretary-General circulated in document A/46/235. In connection with this request, a report by the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia has been issued as document A/46/235/Add.1.

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In his note, the Secretary-General, pursuant to rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, requests that an additional item of an important and most urgent character, entitled "Financing of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia", be placed on the agenda of the forty-sixth session. Owing to the nature of the item, the Secretary-General further requests that the item be allocated to the Fifth Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to include an additional item in the agenda of the forty-sixth session, to read "Financing of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia", and to allocate that item to the Fifth Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We now turn to the request contained in document A/46/867.

In his note, the Secretary-General informs the General Assembly that, in his report to the Security Council (S/23331 and Add.1) he recommended, inter alia, that the mandate of the United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia be expanded to include training in mine clearance and the initiation of a de-mining programme. He further informs the Assembly that the Security Council, by its resolution 728 (1992) of 8 January 1992, approved his report, especially the provision of assistance in mine clearing by Cambodians.

(The President)

In order to enable the Assembly to consider the financing proposals of the Secretary-General that would permit the United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia to undertake the added responsibilities, it will be necessary to reopen consideration of agenda item 146, entitled "Financing of the United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia".

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to reopen consideration of agenda item 146?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: At its 3rd plenary meeting, the Assembly allocated agenda item 146 to the Fifth Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes again to allocate agenda item 146 to the Fifth Committee.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: I should like to inform members that the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia relating to its expanded responsibilities for the period from 15 January to 30 April 1992 was issued on 31 January as document A/46/855.

The Chairman of the Fifth Committee will be informed of the decisions just taken.

I should like to inform members that a plenary meeting of the General Assembly will be held on Friday, 14 February, to consider the reports of the Fifth Committee on those three items.

Lastly, we turn to the request contained in document A/46/865.

In her letter, the representative of Samoa requests that agenda item 84, entitled "Special economic and disaster relief assistance", be reopened so

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that assistance to the Independent State of Western Samoa, which was devastated by a cyclone in December 1991, may be considered by the General Assembly.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to reopen consideration of agenda item 84? There being no objection, it will be so decided.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: May I also take it that the Assembly wishes to consider this item directly in plenary meeting?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: That concludes the General Assembly's business for this morning. I am grateful to all members who arrived on time, and I hope you will be as punctual in future as you were today.

The meeting rose at 10.55 a.m.